

Inventory Number: M 19:27
John Hanson Gassaway Property
Montgomery Co., MD
C. Mazurek
October 22, 1997
Section 8.1

Addendum

This property is no longer owned by the Department of Natural Resources. It was sold in 1984 to Marcia Saba with the intention that the farmhouse would be restored.

Easement

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. M19-27
Magi No. 1604495604
DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic John Hanson Gassaway Farmhouse

and/or common Hammann House

2. Location

street & number 17200 Rifle Ford Rd. not for publication

city, town Germentown vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Montgomery

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>X</u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial
	<u> </u> not applicable	<u>X</u> no	<u> </u> military
			<u> </u> museum
			<u> </u> park
			<u> </u> private residence
			<u> </u> religious
			<u> </u> scientific
			<u> </u> transportation
			<u> </u> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Department of Natural Resources, State of Maryland

street & number Taylor Ave. telephone no.: (301) 269-3771

city, town Annapolis, Md. state and zip code 21401

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 4693

street & number folio 70

city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title MNCPPC Historian Sites Inventory

date 1976 federal X state X county local

pository for survey records Park Historian's Office

city, town Rockville state Maryland

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div>(Check One)</div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
<div>(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The house is a two story, frame structure built in several sections. It consists of two end-gabled sections joined by a two story, galleried center section. The gables are decorated with looped bargeboards. There is a dormer window on the center section.</p> <p>The north side of the house has a four bay facade with the two center bays as doorways. There is a central gable with an arched window. A bracketed porch extends across this side facade.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. Significance

Survey No. M:19-27

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
— prehistoric	— archaeology-prehistoric	— community planning	— landscape architecture	— religion
— 1400-1499	— archaeology-historic	— conservation	— law	— science
— 1500-1599	— agriculture	— economics	— literature	— sculpture
— 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	— education	— military	— social/
— 1700-1799	— art	— engineering	— music	humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	— commerce	— exploration/settlement	— philosophy	— theater
— 1900-	— communications	— industry	— politics/government	— transportation
		— invention		— other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The John H. Gassaway house is a large circa. 1872 Victorian style farmhouse, built in parts. The house is more elaborate than most of the farmhouses in the area and includes some interesting architectural detailing. In addition, it is in an original condition. Unfortunately its now vacant state is a threat to its future.

The house was built about 1872 by John H. Gassaway.¹ John purchased the land on which his house was constructed, 116 3/4 acres of the "Vienna" and "Resurvey on Buck's Bottom" tracts, from George and Ann Robertson in August of 1871 for \$1,150.² Based on the styling of the house, John, a farmer, was quite prosperous. He served as the sixth president of the Montgomery County Agricultural Society.³ Groups such as this one were formed in the county in an attempt on the part of the farmers to improve farming methods, and were very important to agriculture in their regions. The additions were made to the house during the late nineteenth century, probably between 1894 and 1897.⁴

The house remained in the Gassaway family until December of 1911 when Alexander A. and Bettie F. Gassaway sold it to Jacob Hammann.⁵ The farm remained in the Hammann family for many years also. In May of 1948 it was passed on to Ralph Charles Hammann, and stayed in his possession until a few years ago when it was purchased by the Department of Natural Resources, the present owner.⁶

¹ The date given is based on the date that the property was purchased, the tax assessments for the property and the fact that it appears on the 1878 map (but not on the map of 1865).

² Deed EBP 9/490, Montgomery County Land Records.

³ Hopkins Atlas of Montgomery County, 1879, p.6.

⁴ Montgomery County Commissioners Tax Assessment Books, 1878-1911.

⁵ Deed 224/428, Montgomery County Land Records.

⁶ Deed 1155/485, " " and

⁷ Deed 4693/70, " "

Survey No. M:19-27

Survey No. M:19-27

Survey No. M:19-27

Quadrangle scale

Quadrangle scale

Quadrangle scale

Zone Easting Northing

D | | | | | | |

F

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date 8/83

telephone

state Maryland

state Maryland

state Maryland

state Maryland

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

John Hanson Gassaway
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

17200 Riffle Ford Road

CITY, TOWN

Germantown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF within Seneca State Park

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC

—PRIVATE

—BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

—YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

—MUSEUM

—COMMERCIAL

☒ PARK

—EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—ENTERTAINMENT

—RELIGIOUS

—GOVERNMENT

—SCIENTIFIC

—INDUSTRIAL

—TRANSPORTATION

—MILITARY

—OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

State of Maryland (Dept. of Natural Resources) Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Taylor Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21401

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Court House

Liber #: 4693

Folio #: 70

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

M:19-27

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John Hanson Gassaway farm complex is located on the south side of Riffle Ford Road, east of Germantown Road (Maryland Route 118). The main house is a two-story, frame structure built in several sections. It consists of two, two-story, end-gabled wings connected by a lower two-story section, the basic plan being an "I"-shaped one.

The main facade (north facade of the north wing) is four bays wide with an open porch extending across the first story. This wooden bracketed porch is supported by latticed iron uprights. A transomed doorway is located in the second bay from the western corner. Three 4/4 double-hung sashed windows with simple molded, paneled aprons define the remaining bays. Elaborate timber surrounds with cornice window heads and corbelled end sills frame these window openings. Four 4/4 double-hung sashed windows mark the corresponding second-story bays. Lintel and sill treatment of these windows is identical to that of the first story windows. A simple lunette is located in the peaked central gable. Internal brick chimneys are found at both gable ends.

The east facade of this wing is two bays wide. A transomed door with a bracketed gable roofed hood and a 4/4 double-hung sashed window define the first story. Two 4/4 windows mark the corresponding second story openings. All windows share the same lintel and sill treatment with those of the north facade. A lunette is located at the attic level. Looped bargeboard decorates this gable end.

The two-bay, west (rear) facade of this wing is distinguished by a 1/2 double-hung sashed window in the southernmost bay at the first story level, and two 1/2 double-hung sashed windows at the second story level. A small lunette pierces the gable end at the attic level. All windows have simple timber surrounds. A bulkhead flanked by basement windows is located at ground level.

The east facade of the south wing is one bay wide with a screened porch extending across the first story. A central door on the first story, a 4/4 double-hung sashed window with a plain timber surround on the second story, and a smaller 4/4 double-hung sashed window at the attic level define this facade.

The west facade of this wing is marked by a 9/6 double-hung sashed window, a 2/2 double-hung sashed window and a lunette at the first, second and attic levels, respectively. Window treatment is similar to that of the east facade of this wing.

Little distinguishes the fenestration of the three-bay, two-story south facade of the southern wing.

See continuation sheet 1

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

The east (main) facade of the lower two story central section is two bays wide with a shed roofed, double porch spanning the entire width of the facade. Transomed doors are located in the northernmost bay at both levels. A trio of double-hung sashed windows and a single double-hung sashed window distinguish the first and second story levels, respectively.

A gable-roofed dormer with 2/2 double-hung sashed window is found on both this and the west facade of this central section.

The interior of the Gassaway house is in fair condition with most of the original Nineteenth Century doors, woodwork, trim and mantels still intact.

Assorted outbuildings surround the farmhouse. The most interesting structure is a one-story, whitewashed, vertical planked log smokehouse. Adjacent to this building are chicken coops and a wind pump. Twentieth Century barns and a corn crib are found in the nearby field.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		Local History	

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Gassaway complex, a prosperous Nineteenth Century farm now stands idle, dwarfed by PEPCO utility lines and surrounded by urban sprawl in lower Montgomery County. John Hanson Gassaway, a successful gentleman farmer and prominent businessman of Montgomery County, was a typical exponent of the changes which occurred in farming techniques in the third quarter of the Nineteenth Century.

During the late Eighteenth and early Nineteenth Century in Montgomery County, because of poor farming methods used in the cultivation of tobacco and wheat, the soil was severely depleted of its natural fertilizers.¹ As a response to these problems, agricultural societies were organized (Sandy Spring Farmers' Society, 1799; Columbian Agricultural Society, 1809; Sandy Spring Farmers' Club, 1841; Montgomery County Agricultural Society, 1846) by the more prosperous county farmers in an effort to bring planters together to discuss better farming techniques. These groups were thus able to experiment with expensive machinery and chemical fertilizers. The latter of which, introduced in 1843, greatly contributed to the successful reclamation of the soil.²

John Hanson Gassaway actively supported these agricultural concerns. He served as sixth president of the Montgomery County Agricultural Society in the late 1870s, early 1880s.³ Also, he operated a successful fertilizer and grain store in Germantown, Maryland in the latter half of the Nineteenth Century.⁴

Architecturally, the Gassaway farm house represents a curious evolution of what is commonly referred to as an "I"-house, distinguished by three bay width and one bay depth.

¹Hiebert, R.E. and MacMaster, R.K.: A Grateful Remembrance, Montgomery County Government and Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville 1976, p. 115.

²Ibid., p. 123.

³Boys, T.H.S.: The History of Montgomery County. Reprinted from Original (1879 edition) by Regional Publishing Co., Clarksburg, 1972. p. 106.

⁴Ibid., p. 130, 13.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hiebert, R.E. and MacMaster, R.K.; A Grateful Remembrance. Montgomery County Government and Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville, 1976.

Boyd, T.H.S.: The History of Montgomery County. Reprinted from original (1879 edition) by Regional Publishing Co., Clarksburg, 1972.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Bridget Deale, Historic Sites Surveyor

Feb. 1979

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust

269-2438

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Annapolis

Maryland

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Easement

M#19-27 ✓

1604495604

. See revised form

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: John H. Gassaway House				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 17200 Riffle Ford Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Germantown				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Montgomery		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Ralph Hammann				
STREET AND NUMBER: 17200 Riffle Ford Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Germantown		STATE: Maryland		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Montgomery County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville		STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

M:19-27

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
	(Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The house is a two story, frame structure built in several sections. It consists of two end-gabled sections joined by a two story, galleried center section. The gables are decorated with looped bargeboards. There is a dormer window on the center section.</p> <p>The north side of the house has a four bay facade with the two center bays as doorways. There is a central gable with an arched window. A bracketed porch extends across this side facade.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:19-27

8. SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)****AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)****Aboriginal**☐ Prehistoric☐ Historic☐ Agriculture☐ Architecture☐ Art☐ Commerce☐ Communications☐ Conservation☐ Education☐ Engineering☐ Industry☐ Invention☐ Landscape☐ Architecture☐ Literature☐ Military☐ Music☐ Political☐ Religion/Phi-

losophy

☐ Science☐ Sculpture☐ Social/Human-

itarian

☐ Theater☐ Transportation☐ Urban Planning☐ Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:19-27

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Sr. Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

26 Feb 75

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

M:19-27

SURPLUS PROPERTY FACT SHEET

PUBLIC AUCTION ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15TH, 1:PM AT THE SITE
HISTORIC JOHN HANSON GASSOWAY HOUSE, 7200 RIFFLE FORD ROAD, WITH 6.2 ACRES,
MONTGOMERY COUNTY 6TH ELECTION DISTRICT, TAX MAP ET341, PARCEL 393, OWNED BY
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES. PROPERTY CONSISTS OF A 14 ROOM DWELLING
CIRCA 1850, INCLUDING KITCHEN AND BATH, THREE PORCHES AND CELLAR, BARN, CORN
CRIB, SMOKEHOUSE, WINDMILL, AND SHEDS. ZONING IS R-200. THE WELL IS
UNTESTED AND THE LAND HAS NOT BEEN TESTED FOR PERCOLATION. FRONTAGE IS 700
FEET ON RIFFLE FORD ROAD. SOLD AS IS, WITH A HISTORIC EASEMENT IMPOSED UPON
IT BOTH INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR AND PERPETUAL IN DURATION. A \$500.00
ADMINISTRATIVE FEE WILL BE PAID BY THE HIGH BIDDER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES. THE HIGH BIDDER SHALL ALSO POSSESS A \$10,000 CERTIFIED
CHECK MADE OUT TO THE STATE OF MARYLAND AT THE AUCTION OR THE BID WILL NOT BE
CONSIDERED. THE \$10,000.00 CHECK SHALL BE GIVEN TO THE STATE AS A DEPOSIT AT
THE END OF THE AUCTION.

THE PROPERTY WILL BE OPEN FOR INSPECTION 11 AM - 3 PM
SATURDAY AUGUST 4, 1984 AND SATURDAY AUGUST 11, 1984.

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF REAL ESTATE

301 W. PRESTON STREET

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

TELEPHONE 301-383-6737

THE STATE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS.
THE PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE MARYLAND HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY.



M:19-27

Maryland Historical Trust

MEMORANDUM

Date: December 6, 1983

To: Mr. Richard Betters
Department of General Services
Office of Real Estate

From: Mark R. Edwards MRE
Maryland Historical Trust
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Re: Charles Hammann House (Historic Name: John Gassaway House and Outbuildings,
M:19-27)

Pursuant to your telephone call this morning, I enclose a copy of our Maryland Historic Sites Inventory form for the above-referenced property in Seneca State Park. I hope this is useful to you in your efforts to appraise the building as part of the upcoming DNR effort to deaccession this property.

The survey of this property was done in February, 1979 as part of a larger MHT effort to evaluate all historic properties within the boundaries of state parks throughout Maryland. Although Ms. Bridget M. Deale, our field surveyor at that time, stated that the property was not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, I feel the property may indeed be eligible, certainly on the grounds of the importance of Gassaway, and because of the structure's architectural detail. We would be pleased to work with DNR or a new owner to complete such a nomination. I enclose the pertinent section of the recommendations section of Seneca State Park section of the report for your review.

As for the terms of the easement on the property which would be given to the Trust, I would say the building should be transferred with, at minimum, an exterior easement, and very possibly an interior easement as well. I would suggest that you contact Mr. William Pencek, Chief of our Technical Preservation Services branch, at 224-2212 (MARCOM), about scheduling an inspection of the property. Because almost five years have passed since the survey was undertaken, Mr. Pencek or a staff member should examine the structure and then let you know whether an easement on the interior is necessary.

If there is anything further I can do for you in this matter, please call me at 224-2440 (MARCOM).

Enclosures

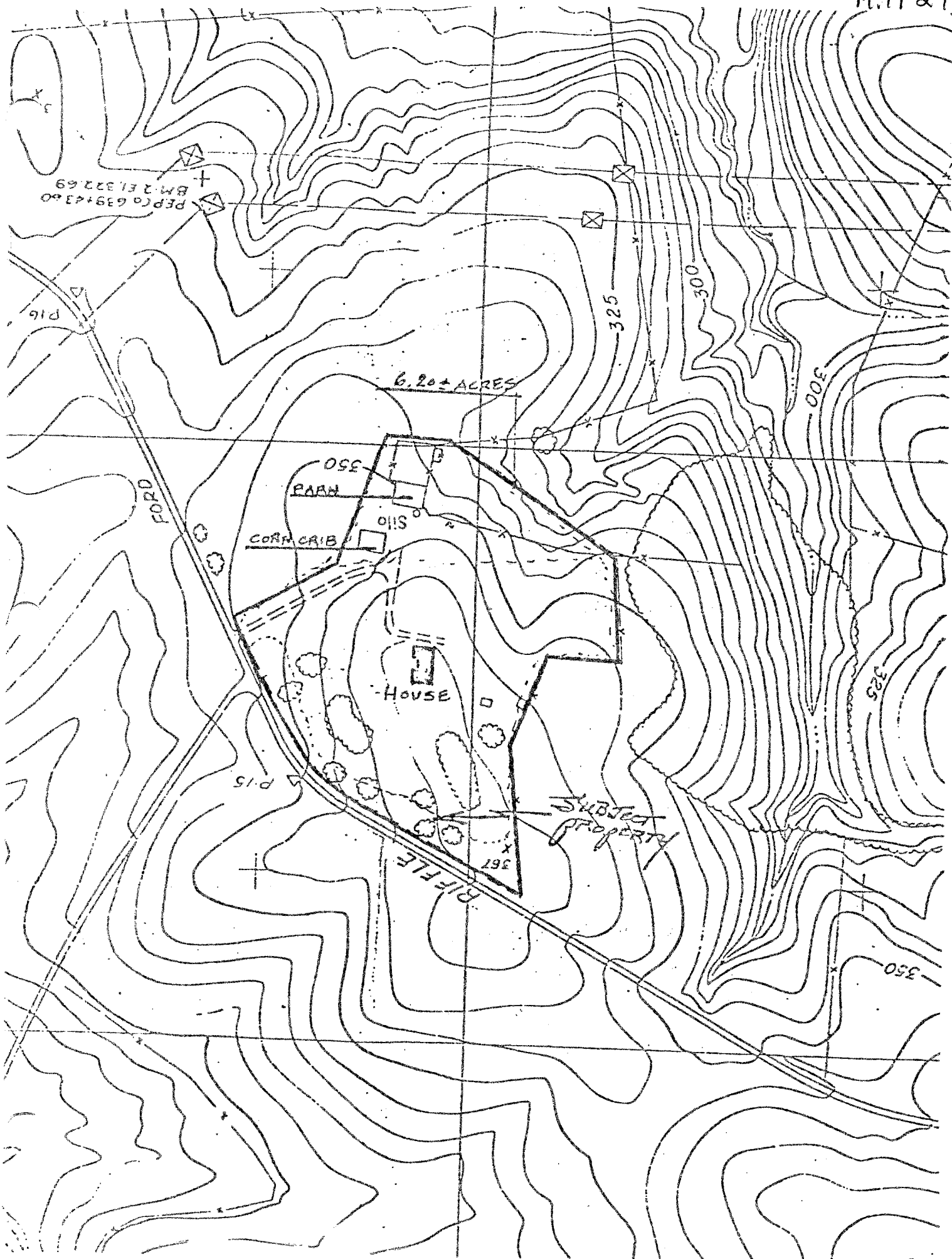
MRE/bjs

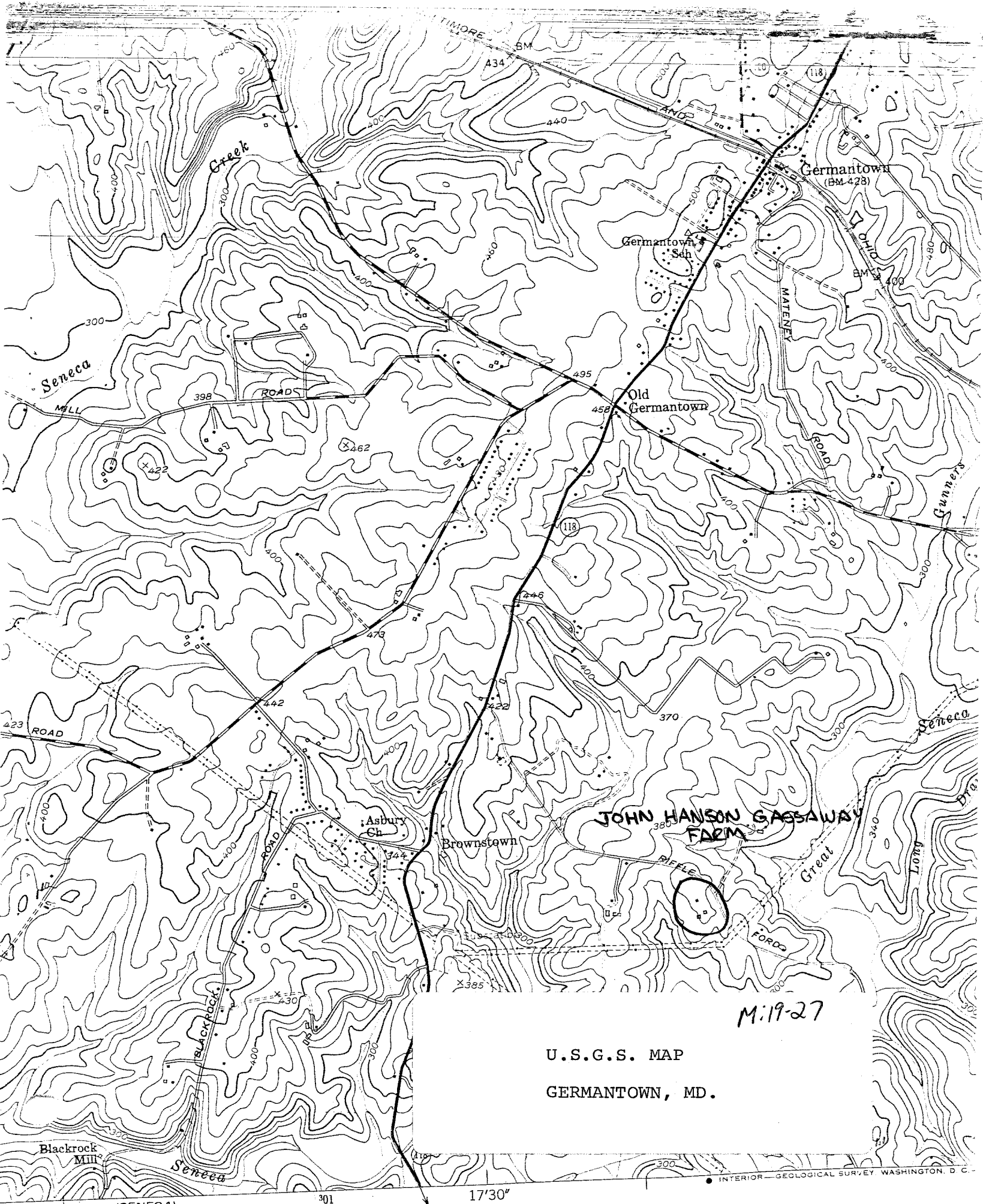
cc: Mrs. George Kephart; Ms. Anita Hall

Mr. William Pencek; Mr. Peter Kurtze

Mr. Ross Kimmel; Mr. John Flewelling

Shaw House, 21 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (301) 269-2212, 269-2438
Department of Economic and Community Development





M:19-27

U.S.G.S. MAP
GERMANTOWN, MD.

(SENECA)
5562 III SE
SCALE 1:24000

17'30"
1.1 MI. TO MD. 28
1 MILE

INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.
ROAD C
Heavy-duty



M 19-27 SEN/DNR 49

JOHN HANSON GASSAWAY HOUSE
RIFFLE FORD RD., SENECA CREEK S.P.

2/79 BMD

NE ELEVATION (NORTH FACADE)



M 19-27 SEN/DNR 49

JOHN HANSON GASSAWAY HOUSE
RIFFLE FORD RD., SENECA CREEK S.P.

2/79 BMD

EAST ELEVATION



M 19-27

SEN/DNR 49

OUTBUILDING, J.H. GASSAWAY HOUSE
RIFLE FORD RD., SENECA CREEK S.P.

2/79 BMD

NE ELEVATION



19-27

NAME JOHN H. GASSAWAY FARM

LOCATION RIFFLEFORD RD, GERMANTOWN, MD

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 2/26/75

m. RUYER